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hear ye certainty of Mr. Blair's being on his voyage until young Cap^t Morgan brought it & not because of ye news of his Exc^l'ys being at sea as he most falsely & maliciously insinuates in three several parts of his answer, as if he meant to talk his Exc^l'y into a Belief of it or was afraid y^t his Exc^l'y should not mind at first or second Telling. He has a wicked Design in it & no way to support it but Malicious & Groundless Surmises.

A True Copy—Involuntary Mistakes of transcription excepted.

SOLOMAN WHATELY.

SELECTIONS FROM THE CAMPBELL PAPERS.

(CONTINUED.)

LETTERS OF MAJOR-GENERAL WILLIAM PHILLIPS TO COL.
THEODERICK BLAND, JR.

(From originals in Collection of Virginia Historical Society.)

[William Phillips, born 1731, died in Petersburg, Va., May 13, 1781. He entered the English military service in 1746, served at the battle of Minden in 1759, became Colonel in 1772, and a Major-General in 1776. He was second in command to Burgoyne in 1777, and after the capture of the British forces at Saratoga and the return of Burgoyne to England in 1778, the command of the "Convention troops," as the prisoners were styled, devolved on him. He remained at or near Charlottesville, Va., in this capacity until November, 1779, when he was allowed to go to New York on parole, and resided there until exchanged for General Benj. Lincoln in 1780. In March, 1781, he was sent to Virginia in command of 2,000 men, and joining Arnold at Portsmouth assumed command of the combined forces. This army advanced to Petersburg, where Phillips was attacked with fever and died in three days. General Phillips had made his headquarters at Bollingbrook, the residence of the Bolling

family in Petersburg, and when he was first seized with his fatal illness the house was under fire from the American guns on the heights across the river. He was buried in Blandford cemetery at Petersburg.

Phillip's character has been variously represented. The British estimate of him was high, while the Americans accused him of being haughty and irritable, and of causing or permitting his troops to perpetrate wanton and cruel devastation.

Campbell (*History of Virginia*, 721) quotes, doubtless from the original, the following protection given by Phillips to Col. Theoderick Bland, Sr., when the British troops were in Prince George county:

"It is Major-General Phillips' positive orders that no part of the property of Col. Theoderick Bland receive any injury from his majesty's troops.

"April 25, 1781.

"J. W. Noble, Aide-de-Camp to Major-General Phillips.

"Major-General Phillips is very happy to show this favor on account of Colonel Bland, Junior's, many civilities to the troops of Convention at Charlottesville."

Notwithstanding this order, Col. Bland's residence, Farmingdale, was plundered and great damage done.

When it was determined to remove the Convention troops from Massachusetts to Charlottesville, Va., they were conducted by an escort under the command of Col. Theoderick Bland, Jr. They arrived in December, 1778, in Albemarle county, and were quartered on the estate of Col. Harvie, about six miles from Charlottesville. The officers were allowed, on parole, to find dwelling places within a circuit of a hundred miles. General Phillips was at "Blenheim," the seat of Col. Edward Carter, and the Baron de Riedesel at "Colle," the residence of Philip Mazzie. In October, 1780, the approach of British armies to Virginia induced the removal of the British portion of the prisoners first to Winchester, Va., and afterwards to Frederick, Md., and Lancaster, Pa. The German troops remained longer, and were removed early in 1781 to Winchester, and the Warm Springs, in Berkeley county.

For accounts of life among the Convention prisoners, see

Anbury's Travels in America, The Letters, Journals, &c., of Baron de Riedesel (Albany, 1867), and *Memoirs, Letters, &c., of Baron de Riedesel* (Albany, 1868); and in regard to other portions of Phillips' career, *Hadden's Journal* (Albany, 1884), *Lossing's Field Book of the Revolution* (where there is a view of the Bollingbrook house), and Hon. F. R. Lassiter's study of the campaign of Arnold and Phillips in 1781, recently published in the *Sewanee Review* and since reprinted.]

(I.)

COLONEL CARTERS' HOUSE, May 11, 1779.

Sir:

After the long conversation we had yesterday it is needless for me to trouble you with a long explanation by letter.

It seems perfectly understood between us that little mistakes are never to be brought into altercation with you Sir, and that any serious matter which does not require any sudden effort is to be discussed with good humour between us, and afterwards better rules of conduct for your commanding officer and the senior officer at the Barracks of the Troops of Convention. I send you the enclosed paper partly to Shew to you that the British Field officer at the Barracks proceeded only in an usual form and with the utmost decency to the American Commanding officer, but it is necessary in a positive manner that I should explain my sentiments to you upon the following Copy of a Paper directed to the officer commanding the Barrack Troops at the Convention.

"Sir: Corporal King of the British Regiment is demanded of the Commanding officer of the Convention Troops at the Barracks, it being ordered by Colonel Bland, that the said King be tried by a Garrison Court Marshal for which purposes the witnesses are now attending. I am Sir,

Your most humble Serv't,

10 May, 1779.

(Signed.) FRA. TAYLOR, Col.

You have been pleased sir to allow that this was a mistake and that it never was your intention Corporal King should be tried at any American Military Tribunal, & that it was merely for the

purpose of an examination with the State of facts laid against him that you wished his appearance at a Court of Enquiry.

For all supposed crimes committed by the Troops of Convention which the Present Civil Power of this Province may claim a right of interfering in I well know it is out of my power and I should suppose not in yours to prevent. For any offence within a military code I shall at all times do justice to any complaint that may be made against the convention Troops, but it is my Duty to protest and I do protest against any officer or soldier of the Troops under the Convention of Saratoga being tried before any Military Tribunal composed of American officers. I have been invincible in this determination ever since I have been at the head of the troops in their present Situation.

I well know that force & punishment are both in your power and the present situation of the Troops under the faith of a convention which has never been in the slightest degree infringed on our parts put all resistance from us out of question; and we must submit and we shall do it with patience and if necessary with fortitude under any exertions and inflictions of force and punishment which you shall use in the execution of which, as you very properly observe, you are answerable. You certainly are so to your own Honor, to General Washington, your commander in chief and to that body which at present governs this Country—the American Congress—and permit me to think that the world at large keeps a watchful Eye over the conduct of the people at present in power in America. This letter is merely a necessary explanation for I do assure you, I have no doubt but that the troops of Convention will receive from every person vested with power in Virginia every degree of treatment consistent with the known rules of humanity and honour.

I am perfectly convinced that your mind is replete with those feelings which joined to your good sense and knowledge of the Military service, will make your conduct such as will render the situation of the Convention Troops as easy, convenient and comfortable as the nature of the case will admit.

Under this description I will take for granted that it is impossible any difference of opinion can happen between you and me,

So far as to lead to any dispute which may prejudice either of us in the different situations in which we stand.

I sincerely wish it on my part and I am Sir,

Your most obedient very humble Servant,

W. PHILLIPS.

(II.)

COLONEL CARTERS' HOUSE, May 25, 1779.

Sir:

I have in consequence of your letter to me of the 23rd Instant signified to the officers of the Convention that their present limits are the Counties of Albemarle and Augusta as far as Staunton and one mile above it. I have directed them to send a return of their respective places of residence which shall be transmitted to you from me so soon as I receive it.

I have ordered a general return of all the servants to be sent in on Friday next to Col. Taylor as you desire, and have mentioned in general orders your sense upon the matter in the words which you have been pleased to use to me.

The papers for orderly men will require your further consideration whether they may not be issued as wanted, and to save all manner of trouble upon the occasion one of the Adjutants of the Day may if you chuse it carry written passes to your commanding officer at the Barracks for him to sign. I mention this Sir because orderly men is a duty which changes continually and are seldom kept on duty beyond one, two or three days as it is fatiguing for them to go backwards & forwards for a longer time without being relieved. Any mode of caution or exactness which you shall desire upon this occasion I shall with great chearfulness direct, and I do assure you I wish that any regulations you make should be complied with as far as possible.

The parole of the German officers has been signed and delivered in to me from General Reidasel and from me to Colonel Harvie many weeks ago. The General return of the whole of the Troops of Convention I shall order the Deputy Adjutant General to give to you as you request it and he will wait on you to know what sort of general Return you mean. You will allow me Sir to observe that as a matter of right it does not appear

to me you can claim any return from me of the Troops of Convention, but as they marched from the Massachusetts Bay with the Casualties & Circumstances which have happened since that period to the present time, and it seems to me that all matters relating to these troops whether of officers exchanged or gone on parole having been transacted with Major Generals Heath and Gates with the participation of General Washington and the American Congress who are possessed with an entire knowledge of every transaction cannot come within your responsibility as you, Sir, can only be answerable for the troops as they have been delivered over to your care and command, but I observe again Sir as a matter of mere request you shall have my return you wish for.

You are pleased to mention to me that there is now in the American Guard house one of the Troops of Convention taken up attempting to desert, and that you conceive he has by that forfeited the privilege he was entitled to under the Convention and comes under the predicament of a Prisoner of War.

You will allow me Sir to explain my Sentiments upon this occasion as I have frequently done before to the American officers who have been in command over these troops as well as to the Troops themselves, that any deserter from the troops of Convention must mean to desert from the Cause of Great Britain into that of America and such men as you observe not entitled to any privileges under the Convention of Saratoga, and I am, sir, to inform you that I will never suffer Deserters to rejoin any corps of these Troops.

I however, Sir, mean by the positive desertion, for men who may have straggled into the county, and by the enticements of women and liquor have absented themselves from their Companies and Regiments come under several particulars of our Articles of War and have always been treated accordingly by being punished & forgiven as the nature of their offence merited. As to the man in question I shall with great pleasure hold a conversation with you on the subject and find myself Sir, extremely obliged to you for so readily adopting that agreeable mode of doing business.

I very much thank you, Sir, for your goodness in assuring me that the Tools and Barrack Utensils as demanded by us are

likely to be granted upon the terms proposed. You will I am sure pardon me for observing that from Mr. Hunter's Iron works near Fredericksburg all the articles demanded can be easily obtained.

You mention in your letter, Sir, that several officers heretofore quartered in the country below, have expressed their desire of returning there and that you intend using your interest to procure that privilege and for extending their present limit so as to render it as agreeable as in your power.

I beg to acknowledge my obligations to you for these obliging declarations, they manifest a liberality which I daresay I shall always find in Colonel Bland, but Sir, previous to the receiving your letter I had thought proper to signify to the officers that I should not permit, particular cases excepted, of their quartering so distant from the Barracks. Several reasons and some circumstances render it necessary for me not to allow of the officer being so near the Sea Coast. This tends me to Earnestly request of you Sir to take into your consideration some means of building officer's Barracks, as I am now to claim the privilege contained in the Treaty of Convention at Saratoga that the officers should be quartered near their men. It would be abrupt to expect in your present hurry of business that this should be done immediately, and I refer to your good sense and propriety when to adopt the measure.

I am sorry to trouble you Sir, with So long a letter but there is one Article more upon which I must write. I have reason to think that there is very little provision in meat in your stores at the Barracks.

* * * * *

(III.)

COLONEL CARTER'S HOUSE, May 27th, 1779.

Sir:

I this instant receive your letter of this day's date. In regard to any intermediate mode of selling stores belonging to the Troops of Convention to Inhabitants I do assure you it shall never have my countenance or authority but shall always receive my check and if necessary my sincerest reprehension. I sub-

join an extract of an order I sent Lieutenant Campbell the Assistant Quarter Master during the time he was at Richmond, by which you will perceive my early determination to discountenance such practices. But Sir, I cannot help holding Governor Henry's letter to me on this Subject in much respect, I sent you a copy of it and it expressed, in my opinion, with the utmost attention and caution to his publick Station, such Gentlemanly and liberal ideas of friendly returns of hospitality that I wish might be adopted but be assured whatever you prefer shall be done and with my notice in general orders for opening Mr. Commissary Hoakesley's publick stores, I shall also give your letter to me as explicit of your Sentiments therein.

My orders to Lieutenant Campbell is as follows: "You are sensible of my strong orders for nothing being sold to the Inhabitants of this Country by Mr. Hoakesley and tho I would not wish to prevent any little returns of civility from the officers to their acquaintances in the Country yet such exchanges of mutual hospitality must not become a medium for trade. You will take care to inform the officers in your neighbourhood of this and that it will require great caution and attention in the observance.

"I am called upon to give great attention upon this matter from the hints that have been given to me of the suspicion which reign in the minds of the people of Virginia respecting Mr. Hoakesleys stores. The Governor of Virginia has written to me upon the subject expressing his Satisfaction at my orders to Mr. Hoakesley mentioning that a contrary conduct might be the source of much uneasiness and jealousy and he further writes:

'And I am happy to persuade myself that in your invariable attention to propriety will be found an example to which your officers will conform themselves.'

"I wish my sentiments upon this matter may be entirely publick and therefore you may make them the subject of conversation whenever you please, for alltho' I highly esteem the mutual intercourse which subsists between the officers and the Families in the Country and that I wish the former to pay every grateful return for the hospitality which has been Shewed them, it must, however be done so as not to commit me into altercation with Colonel Bland or the Governor and executive power of Virginia."

Whenever you please, sir, that the Flag of Truce should go

as I writ upon the subject to-day, I shall concur in it. I am in no hurry, and only request the favour of you to write to Mr. Nehill that the vessel may remain until your further orders.

I am, sir,

Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

W. PHILLIPS.

[TO BE CONTINUED]

VIRGINIA IN 1637.

HARVEY'S SECOND ADMINISTRATION.

(Abstracts by W. N. Sainsbury, and Copies in McDonald Papers, Virginia State Library, from the British Public Record Office.)

PETITION OF RICHARD NICHOLAS.

Petition of Richard Nicholas and Joshua Foote, ironmongers, to the Lords of the Privy Council. At Sir John Harvey's going over to Virginia petitioners furnished him with iron wares to the value of upwards of £45, which he gave his bond to pay in January, 1629 (-30), but has altogether denied to pay said money tho' often earnestly desired, Pray that their said debt may be paid out of the moneys due to said Sir John for his Maj. to pay to him. *Underwritten* is an Order (signed by Edward Nicholas, clerk of the Council) requiring Sir John Harvey either to give satisfaction to the Petitioners or attend their Lordships on Wednesday to show cause to the contrary. March 9, 1635-6. (*Colonial Papers*, Vol. 9, No. 6.)

RICHARD KEMP TO SECRETARY WINDEBANK.

1636, April 11, Point Comfor, Virginia.

Richard Kemp (Secretary in Virginia) to Secretary Sir Francis Windebank. Twenty-one sail of ships have arrived this year in James River all good & now going freighted with tobacco for the port of London. By the computation of men of credit in